

QA 17991

RULEMAKING AND QUESTIONS FOR COMMENT

On the Adequacy of Entry Level Training Provided

1. How can the adequacy of training be defined?

The adequacy of a program can be assessed by evaluating how the program compares to the standards in the Model Curriculum adapted by the Professional Truck Drivers Institute of America. (PTDIA)

What mechanisms exist to measure adequacy?

Many Institutions are accredited by nationally recognized agencies but there is no uniform curriculum for truck driver training schools. The PTDIA is the only agency that has the adequacy to measure truck driver training programs.

2. What standards exist to ensure that training provided by schools and employers is adequate for entry level truck driver training.

Same as #1

3. What should an adequate truck driver training program include? What is the minimum amount of time that should be devoted to each of these components?

A truck driver training program should include at least the minimum standards of the Model Curriculum.

4. Can governmental or private standards that guide the training of entry level drivers be used to determine the adequacy of entry level driver training?

Yes. The PTDIA has been using such a system since 1988,

Why are these standards appropriate?

There must be specific criteria to direct entry level driver training.

5. To obtain a CDL a CMV driver must demonstrate knowledge and skills needed to operate a CMV. Are these tests sufficiently comprehensive to accurately measure a driver's performance?

No. the CDL cannot be the only measurement to determine training adequacy.

6. Should training requirements for entry level CMV drivers be federally mandated.

Yes. This is the only way that entry level truck drivers can be adequately trained.

NUMBERS OF DRIVERS TRAINED

7. What is an entry level CMV driver?

For the purpose of this rulemaking on entry level truck driver is someone that has never been properly licensed to drive a CMV.

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8. What industry-wide initiatives or policies, if **any**, reasonably assure that the majority of all entry level drivers are trained?

The only initiative taken by the industry to a source that entry level drivers are properly trained is the **PTDIA**.

9. How many truck driver training schools and motor carrier programs train entry level drivers?

We do not know how many truck driving schools there are, however, Diesel Driving Academy, Inc. has two (2) one in Shreveport, La. and one in Baton Rouge, La.

What percentage of those enrolled successfully completes such training?

The drop rate at Diesel Driving Academy, Inc. is approximately 3%. Completion rate is approximately 97%.

10. N.A.

11. We have no information on this question.

ENTRY LEVEL DRIVER TRAINING COST/BENEFITS

12. Describe the expected benefits and estimated dollar cost for the following:

a. Resident training will vary between public and private schools dramatically due to public support. Some public schools may charge as little as \$50. The private schools may have to charge between \$1,500 and \$5,500.

b. Home study programs with the hands on portion of training may cost as much as \$6,500. However there are very few if any of these school in existence.

c. We have no information on this segment of training.

13. N/A

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